

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Ecuador

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SUBJECT Plotting against the Plaza Regime
25X1A

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25X1X

1. Lower-ranking Ecuadoran army officers are reported to be steadily gaining ground in their efforts to organize members of the armed forces into a secret military society called Liga del Fusil for the purpose of planning a revolt against present military commanders.* Lt. Julio Maria Sacoto M. of the Playas mechanized group, stationed approximately ninety kilometers from Guayaquil, brought to Quito a list of the signatures of about 180 officers and men of the Second Military Zone (Guayaquil area) who are willing to support the Liga del Fusil movement. Lt. Sacoto stated that many other young officers of the second zone are willing to join in the uprising against their commanders.
2. It is also reported that a series of circular letters is being passed among subaltern officers and enlisted men, exhorting them to support the Liga del Fusil and join the proposed uprising. Action is still scheduled for sometime after the adjournment of congress but no definite date has been set.

25X1A [REDACTED] this movement is under the leadership of Capt. Oswaldo Merino, Capt. Jaime Aguilar Paredes, Capt. Luis Agustin P. Mora Bowen and Lt. Antonio Rivas.

25X1X [REDACTED] Comment. It is believed that unless the government can undermine this movement while it is still in the formative stage, the Liga del Fusil may prove to be a serious threat to the stability of the present government, in spite of the fact that action is allegedly to be directed not against the government but against Defense Minister Manuel Diaz Granados and the officers supporting him.

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